

EUROPE, THROUGH THE JOURNAL, BIDS GOODSPEED TO THE GREATER NEW YORK.

The Italian Government Will Officially Congratulate the New City and Its New Mayor.

By Luigi Ferrari.

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Rome, Dec. 22.—The Government has telegraphed to the Italian Embassy at Washington to present the best wishes of Italy to the Mayor-elect of Greater New York.

Premier Rudini will to-morrow send a telegram of personal good wishes to Mayor-elect Van Wyck.

ANTWERP'S RULER VAN WYCK'S KINSMAN.

Antwerp, Dec. 22.

Editor New York Journal:

The new and considerable extension of territory which the Greater New York, under the new Mayor's administration will acquire, at the commencement of next year, furnishes me with the opportunity to present to him through you my warmest congratulations on the occasion of an event which, while rendering the period of his Mayoralty illustrious, will make New York the second city in the world.

The community of origin between our ancestors and the intimacy resulting from the so extensive direct and daily commercial relations of the two ports answer for the sincerity of the sentiments with which we regard your growing fortune—sentiments which, I can assure you, are shared by all my administrative colleagues. May our friendly and mutual relations develop still more during the century about to open. May I express through the Journal the hope that these good wishes will reach all the administrators of New York?

JAN VAN RYSWYCK,

Burgomaster of Antwerp.

COPENHAGEN HOPES WE WILL GROW LARGER.

Copenhagen, Dec. 22.

Editor New York Journal:

The citizens of Copenhagen, through their Burgomaster, send their congratulations to the citizens of Greater New York, among whom are thousands of Danes. May your city develop till it becomes the mightiest on the globe!

THE BURGOMASTER OF COPENHAGEN.

CONGRATULATIONS OF BERLIN'S BURGOMASTER.

Berlin, Dec. 22.

Editor New York Journal:

My heartiest congratulations on the enlargement which now makes the already important and famous city of New York second in size in the whole world. May the German citizens further contribute to the thriving of the great community and may they find their own prosperity in so doing.

Chief Burgomaster of Berlin and Member of the Prussian Landtag.



Here is a Prize to Be Won on New Year's Eve.

It is a vase of solid silver, beaten with the deft hammer into a design of classic beauty.

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW ON THE CARNIVAL.

He Heartily Indorses the Projected Celebration of the Birth of the Second City in the World.

The Journal's plan to celebrate the amalgamation of Greater New York should meet with the approval of every man, woman and child, not only in this city, but in the State. The bringing together of 3,500,000 persons into one great city should receive recognition of some kind. When it is considered that the birth of Greater New York makes the city the second in the world, it seems that no ovation can be too large, and the Journal's ambition to make the event what it should be should have the support of the entire community.

On account of the short time between now and January 1, no time should be lost in arranging for the celebration. The weather may not permit of the open-air celebration in City Hall square, but it could easily be arranged for in one of the big halls or public buildings.

The Governors of all the other States should be invited to attend this celebration, and no public man, State or city official, should fail to be present at the celebration. I believe no one within easy reach of New York will fail to respond to the Journal's invitation. The event will be the means of bringing together the people of Greater New York and strengthening the bond of sympathy and good fellowship between them. I shall certainly do all in my power to make the celebration successful.

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW.



One of the Prizes for New York's Birthday Fete.

This is a magnificent vase of solid silver, a masterpiece of hammered work, with a figure of Winged Victory bearing a wreath surmounting the lid.

PRINCELY GIFT FOR "SAM" SLOAN

Gold Service Worth \$16,000 to Be Presented by D., L. & W. Employees.

It is too bad, of course, that a well planned surprise must be spoiled, but as there is no other way of telling the news, it must be made known that at 11 a. m. to-day, President Samuel Sloan, of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, will be presented with a \$16,000 gold table service by the officers and employees of the company he directs.

No more princely gift has ever been given an employer by employees. The service is of solid gold, designed by the best of Tiffany artists, and its magnificence is indicated by the fact that the tray, 14x20 inches in size, cost \$3,000.

The occasion for the presentation is that Mr. Sloan will be eighty years old on Christmas. He is as vigorous as the youngest of railroad presidents, and maintains the intimate relations with employees that he did when nearly half a century ago he was president of the Hudson River Railroad.

In a very short time Mr. Sloan will have been president of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad for thirty years, and many of the high officials are men he has promoted in that time from the lowest ranks. They love the "old man," and two months ago they determined to surprise him on the occasion of his birthday.

A committee to arrange for a gift was appointed, of which H. C. Hicks, head of the freight department, was made chairman. With him were associated W. F. Holwell, J. B. Marston, A. H. Schwarz, S. B. Foley, A. C. Salisbury, A. H. Storrs, G. E. Zippel and O. A. Holden, son of Vice-President Holden, who acted as treasurer. The 250 office employees of the railroad, as well as the high officials, were communicated with, and it was found that the contributions would amount to about \$16,000.

The gold service that Tiffany's has produced for this amount is a triumph of art. It consists of eight pieces.

The presentation will be made in Vice-President Holden's office this morning at 11 o'clock.

Mr. Sloan was born on Christmas Day, 1817, in Lismore, near Belfast, Ireland. He was brought to this city when three years old, and has lived here ever since. He was first employed in an importing house, and then drifted into the railroad business. At 9:30 every morning he reaches his office, and he works as hard as any of his clerks till he leaves, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

MRS. BOOTH IS IN PERIL.

May Succumb, It Is Said, to a Sudden Shock at Any Time.

Ballington Booth received a telegraph message from the Presbyterian Hospital yesterday informing him that Mrs. Booth's condition was very serious.

For some weeks to come, it is said, if Mrs. Booth should have a sudden shock at any time she will be dead in ten minutes. Besides Mr. Booth, the only person allowed to see her is her secretary, Miss Jennie Hughes.

RHINELANDER POLICE MEDAL.

To Be Presented Annually to Some Member Distinguished for Valor.

At the meeting of the Police Board yesterday a letter was read from Philip and Oakley Rhinelander, stating that, as an expression of their appreciation of the police force, they desire to present a gold medal each year to the department, to be known as the Rhinelander medal for valor.

FRIEND OF TWEED IN A POORHOUSE.

"Beau" Pettenger's Fortunes Have Reached Their Lowest Ebb.

It may give William Pettenger a certain distinction among his fellow inmates of the Westchester County poorhouse to boast that he was a friend of Tweed; but it is doubtful that this attenuated claim to renown will earn him any more tobacco than the other paupers, or a stiffer glass of orte at Christmas.

His memories are the most valuable asset Edward Pettenger has left, for he has reached, by slow stages, the lowermost of the social ladder. And yet they called him "Beau Pettenger" thirty years ago. He had an office in Wall Street then, and he drove about in his own victoria, behind a liveried coachman. Young men of fashion copied the cut of his coat and the pattern of his necktie, and his face was never missed at the theatre or the race track.

Pettenger practised law and carried on an extensive business as a real estate broker. He had a fine house in Lincoln avenue, Mount Vernon. He kept fast horses, he bought rare vintages, he spent money without looking at it.

There came a time when the beau made his infamy felt in municipal politics. Strange to say, the turn in Pettenger's tide is coincident with this seeming honor. The piping days of the Tweed ring were too much for him. He acquired a shrewd habit—risky speculation, drink, gambling and all the rest of it—and his fortune dwindled away. Horses, carriages, house and furniture went to meet judgments. Wife and children left him.

And so the former beau slipped downward and still downward with the years, until he was picked up by the police of Mount Vernon yesterday morning, half-finished in rags, his yellowish white hair hanging in ragged wisps about his colorless face.

"I've reached the end of my rope," he said huskily, when arraigned as a vagrant before Justice Schatz. "The happy days, when I had money to burn and lots of friends, have gone, Judge, and now I'll take my medicine, if you please. I must live among tramps for the rest of my days."

"Poor fellow!" ejaculated the Justice, casting a compassionate glance at the forlorn old man. "You'd better go to the county poorhouse."

And "Beau Pettenger" went.

SERVANTS MEET AN ASTOR

None of the Family Greet Mrs. Haig, Formerly Mrs. J. Coleman Drayton.

Mrs. George Ogilvy Haig, formerly Miss J. Coleman Drayton, was among the first passengers to land last evening from the White Star liner Majestic. She walked down the gangway leaning on the arm of her husband.

The announcement that Mr. and Mrs. Haig would arrive on the Majestic was made exclusively in the Journal of December 12.

None of the Astor family were present on the pier to greet the Haigs. Mrs. Astor sent her maid, and a servant, to the pier. Mrs. Haig drove to her mother's home, at Fifth avenue and Sixty-fifth, in Mrs. Astor's carriage, at 6 p. m. Mr. Haig was detained by looking after the luggage.

It is now several months since Mrs. Astor and her daughter met. On the short visit to this city Mr. and Mrs. Haig will remain with Mrs. Astor. She will give a dinner in their honor on Monday night, Dec. 27.

Societies of All Nations Organize to Take Part---Floats Being Built by All Trades and Professions. The Striking Feature Will Be Light.

NOTHING succeeds like success. Popular approval of the projected civic parade and carnival to commemorate the birth of the second city of the world is now sweeping toward the Journal office with the impetuosity of a tidal wave. With every hour the project grows in popularity, and the success of the first great midnight open-air carnival held in this city is assured.

It is the intention to reproduce as nearly as possible the characteristic features of the great Roman carnival in February at which time the streets of the Eternal City are thronged with masquers, every one of whom bears a torch, lantern or flaming candle to light him on his way.

In the Greater New York carnival every man who appears in the parade must carry a torch or lantern and every vehicle must be fully illuminated. This will be insisted upon.

City Hall Ablaze with Light.

The splendid old building which has so long been the seat of city government will be a blaze of light, and every inch of the smooth plaza at its front will be illumined by search lights placed upon neighboring buildings so that their rays converge upon the terrace before the City Hall. Postmaster Van Cott yesterday granted permission to illuminate the northern front of the Government Post Office Building thus securing a very brilliant spectacle.

At the central point of the City Hall terrace, surrounded by so many stately buildings, sparkling with electric lights, the exercises of the evening will occur. There will not be a dull moment between 10 o'clock and midnight. The competition between the great singing societies will take place upon the terrace. This contest will continue till 11 o'clock, at which moment it is intended that the head of the procession down Broadway shall reach the Broadway entrance to the park. The instant that the mounted police preceding Fancullin's famous Seventy-first Regiment Band crosses the Broadway sidewalk into the park there will be a flight of aerial bombs such as was never witnessed before in this city.

The order of this brilliant pageant, which for one hour will traverse City Hall square, has not yet been fully planned, but it is hoped that a correct and official statement can be made on Monday or Tuesday morning next.

Just before midnight one of the unique features of the carnival will occur. At that time the independent chorus of two thousand voices will silently take its place upon the terrace before the City Hall. A large hall has been engaged for the necessary preliminary training and Professor Fancullin will by that time have brought them into all harmony. The bands of the Seventy-first Regiment, representing New York, and of the Twenty-third Regiment, representing Brooklyn, will have been grouped on the steps of the City Hall behind the singers, and a small battery of artillery stationed nearby will be used to accentuate the music.

New York's Requiem.

At a signal this grand chorus will sing the "Star Spangled Banner," in which the multitude will be asked to join. This will be rendered during a lull in the fireworks, but at the conclusion thereof there will be a great flight of aerial bombs. A hymn, specially written for the occasion, will then be sung.

The Moment of Suspense.

The clock will be watched with universal interest, because at its first stroke the white and blue flag of the new city will be seen rapidly rising as of its own accord toward the masthead atop the dome.

Simultaneously Wilson's battery, parked in a vacant space nearby, will fire a salute of 100 guns. Instantly the sky will be aflame! The largest bombs ever fired will be thrown heavenward. The manager of the fireworks display declares that many of these bombs can be heard for a distance of ten miles. Not a rocket or other dangerous projectile will be used.

Look at the Prizes.

The trophies are the most beautiful that money can buy, and aggregate several thousand dollars. They are:

A magnificently decorated loving cup of solid silver, of French finish and ornamentation. A monster solid silver punch bowl with a rim of delicately hammered flowers and vines. A heavy solid silver punch bowl, supported on deer's horns.

A finely chiseled solid silver vase surmounted by a cupid bearing a wreath of victory. An enormous solid silver pitcher vase, with the figure of a Satyr drinking from a shell, chiseled on the handle.

A bronze statue of "Patrie," from Tiffany's, which will be on exhibition to-day.

A superb vase cup of solid silver bearing a chiseled figure of Victory.

A solid silver loving cup finished in the most delicate French fashion.

A heavy silver loving cup with a base of beaten roses.

A heavy silver loving cup copied from an old English pattern, with tapering rolled column flutings.

A solid silver flower vase more than two feet high.

A ponderous solid silver cup, with buckhorn handle.

Another heavy silver cup, with buckhorn handle.

A marvellously beautiful engraved wine jug, with mouths of solid silver, plated with gold.

Another engraved wine jug—Greek shape—with solid silver mouths, plated with gold.

Six chainless wheels will be offered as prizes to the bicyclists.

Theatrical Display.

Messrs. Kiaw & Erlanger's mechanical force have prepared much of the material used in their big extravaganza, "The Brownies," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "A Round of Pies," for spectacular displays.

Andrew A. McCormick, manager of the Broadway Theatre, and of the new and highly successful De Koven-Smith opera "The Highwayman," decided yesterday on a novel thing for a pageant. One of the finest scenes of the piece is where the heroine in the costume of Dick Fitzgerald, the highwayman, holds up the London coach at the point of a pistol. The coach is an excellent imitation of the coaches of that period—the first five years of the present century—and the costumes of the coachman and the passengers are correspondingly correct. Mr. McCormick purposes to have this coach join the pageant.

J. Austin Fynes, manager of Keith's Union Square Theatre, promises something interesting and typical of Mr. Keith's important vaudeville interests, the nature of which will be described later.

Alfred E. Aarons, manager of Koster & Bial's Music Hall, said yesterday: "This carnival is a great idea. You may be sure that Koster & Bial will co-operate heartily."

Tony Pastor yesterday sent the following letter to the Journal:

The German Societies Rally.

The following letter has been received by the Journal:

61 Park row, New York, Dec. 22.

To the Editor of the Journal:

At the meeting of the United German Societies held last night a committee of arrangements was appointed for the Greater New York carnival. This committee was authorized to co-operate with all other participating organizations, with a view to arranging an official programme for the occasion. It was decided accordingly to invite the delegates or representative leaders of the various societies interested to attend a conference to be held on Sunday, December 26, at 3 p. m., at Terrace Garden, Fifty-eighth street and Third avenue.

It is hoped that this letter will be accepted as an invitation without requiring any further notice, and that all bodies that are preparing to participate in this great festival will be duly represented at the conference.

Chairman of the Committee.

International Features.

The Societe Francaise L'Amitie, David Roedelberger, president, announced yesterday that it would enter the procession with a gigantic float bearing a tiger on its top.

The Cercle de l'Harmonie, the Societe Culinaire Philanthropique, Fernand Fere, president, will also be represented.

The chiefs and officers of the various volunteer fire companies now in active service in the boroughs of Richmond and Queens, as well as representatives of the exempt and veteran fire associations from all parts of the city, met at the office of the Fireman's Herald, No. 39 Cortlandt street, last night, and arranged to participate in the Greater New York celebration with a parade of from 1,500 to 2,000 men.

The fruit trade of this city will send a handsome float representing the "Horn of Plenty" borne aloft by many pretty girls representing the various fruits of the United States. This feature will be largely due to the enthusiasm and enterprise of Antonio Zucca, Coroner-elect.

The Magyar Omlenkeoz Egylet, the great Hungarian Society of New York, which gives the Hungarian Pensants' Ball at the Grand Central Palace on the same night will send its mounted cavalcade of one hundred ladies and gentlemen in its genuine native costume.

The Italian societies are working with energy to rival their French and German fellow citizens. The Colombo Guard that wears the Bersagliere uniform, carried through so many battles by the famous troop organized to defend the Alps, will be in line. The Assolone Fraternita Italiana will meet at No. 149 Broecker street with many other societies at 8 o'clock to-night. Signor Angelo will address the meeting.

L. V. Fugazzi, President of the United Italian Societies of New York, Brooklyn and other cities, and representing 150,000 Italian citizens, has addressed a stirring letter to the various societies, asking them to participate in the festivities on New Year's Eve. The letter is published in full Italian Herald.

A meeting of all those interested in the success of the bicycle display will be held at the Bartholdi Hotel at 8 o'clock to-night. Captains of the various clubs in Greater New York are urgently requested to attend.

The Franz Abt Schueler, one of the oldest singing societies in America, will participate in the festival with a chorus of forty members.

FIVE POISONED BY EATING CHEESE.

Seventh Avenue Delicatessen Dealer Bought "Peculiar" Looking Food.

At lunch hour yesterday five women of the seventy-five employed in the Sterling Laundry, at No. 151 West Thirtieth street, sent out to Emil Vokor's delicatessen shop, at No. 375 Seventh avenue, for ten cents' worth of cheese. The messenger, who was one of the syndicate, bought a wedge of American cheese from a monster half of that article, and the five proceeded to devour it as part of their noonday meal. At 2 o'clock three of the women were taken suddenly ill, and their condition being reported to the proprietor, Samuel T. Young, he told one of the shop boys to go for a doctor.

The boy went, but, according to the habit of apprentice boys, found something else to do than that for which he went forth, and before his several quests resulted, at 5 o'clock, in the arrival of Dr. Horsley, the other two women who had partaken of the delicatessen luxury were also ill and in exceedingly pain.

The Doctor found the women suffering from the symptoms familiar in ice cream poisoning. They were almost in a comatose condition, following the acute pain they had suffered, but by the use of emetics, the Doctor afforded relief to the unfortunate company of starchers and ironers, and on a second visit said that none of them was in danger, although all would probably pass a rather languid Christmas.

The laundry proprietor wisely concluded that the case should have police attention, and informed the Sergeant of the West Thirtieth street police station, who sent Detectives Bonnage and Dale to investigate. They learned that the delicatessen man had bought the cheese from A. L. Reynolds, of No. 322 Greenwich street, only a short time before he sold a portion of it to the laundry women, and besides what they had taken had made only one other sale, of five cents' worth. He had remarked to the man who had delivered the cheese to him that it looked "peculiar," but as that is not an unusual characteristic of many kinds of cheese, he had not hesitated to sell it. The detectives ordered him to return the unsold portion and started out to look up the purchases of the five cents' worth.

The women who were poisoned were: Mrs. and Miss Egan, of No. 154 West Twenty-eighth street; Annie Hearn, of No. 114 West Thirtieth street; Emily Walters, of No. 347 East Seventh street, and Mrs. Donohue, of No. 542 West Forty-fourth street.

Plate for the Keenness.

Bethlehem, Pa., Dec. 22.—Nearly sixty tons of armor plates for the superstructure of the battleship Keenness were shipped tonight by the Bethlehem Iron Company to Newport News.

IN ORDER to get the best the country produces, you are obliged to have it selected for you by experts. It is so in music as in everything else. Out of the great mass of material offered to New Yorkers weekly they are at a loss frequently to know where the better creations are to be found. But since the Sunday Journal began the publication of the music that is worthy of public approval at least a million people weekly are content to wait for the Journal and get a copy of the most popular song. Next week "Farewell to the King's Highway" will be the feature.

MISS SIEGEL TO WED IN THE SPRING

Daughter of the Wealthy Merchant Engaged to Frank E. Vogel.

Gerson Siegel, vice-president of the Siegel-Cooper Company, and president of the firm of Siegel Brothers, has announced the engagement of his daughter Blanche to Frank E. Vogel, of Chicago. The date of the wedding has not been set, but it is the intention of the young people to be married in March or April. In all probability the breakfast will be given at Delmonico's instead of the family residence, No. 22 East Sixty-seventh street.

Miss Siegel met her prospective husband at the World's Fair in Chicago four years ago. She was on a tour through the West with her parents at the time. The Siegels have extensive interests in Chicago, as well as here, and have been associated with Mr. Vogel socially and through business affiliations many years. Miss Siegel was scarcely more than a girl at the time, but her beauty and prepossessing manner attracted attention everywhere.

Since then they have met frequently, and the announcement of their engagement last Sunday was not a surprise to the friends of the families.

Miss Siegel was graduated recently from the Normal College, and has received a certificate entitling her to teach in the public schools. She has already spent sixty days in charge of classes as a substitute. This was necessary before she could be awarded the certificate.

She is a bright and clever conversationalist. Her hair and eyes are dark, and her skin of a creamy whiteness. She is of medium height, and neither stout nor slender. Although she has never gone into society, she is a great favorite in her home circle.

Frank E. Vogel is a member of the big packing firm of Nelson & Morris, of Chicago. He was born in this country, and is thirty-three years of age. Most of his time is spent between here and Chicago. He is a member of the leading Chicago clubs and a great social favorite. His interest in the firm is large, and he is looked upon as one of the wealthiest young men in the West. He has known Mr. Siegel for many years.

WOMAN NOT MURDERED.

Inquiry Shows That Mrs. Frederick Sharp Killed Herself by Inhaling Gas.

Policeman James Kennedy, of the East One Hundred and Fourth street station, thought he saw finger bruises on the throat of Mrs. Frederick Sharp, who killed herself in a bath tub at No. 1411 11th avenue early yesterday morning by inhaling gas.

Four policemen, including Detective David Wilbur, of the East One Hundred and Fourth street station, guarded Frederick Sharp and the body from 12 o'clock yesterday until Coroner Hoehner came at 6 o'clock. Coroner Hoehner talked with the distraught husband and looked at the corpse and said:

"I see no bruises. The police are dismissed."

Detective Wilbur said he saw nothing to excite suspicion of foul play. Dr. W. W. Taylor, of No. 6 West One Hundred and Sixty-sixth street, who was sent for at 8 o'clock yesterday morning, after sharp had discovered his wife's body in the tub, said it was simply a case of suicide by asphyxiation.

Dr. Otto M. Schultze, corner's physician, performed an autopsy last night and discovered nothing to indicate that murder had been done.